

### NAVAL AIR STATION FORT WORTH JRB CARSWELL FIELD TEXAS

# ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 256

## Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Carswell Field Air Force Base Conversion Agency Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

#### MINUTES OF 8 JUNE 1995

#### PRELIMINARY MEETING

A meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for Naval Air Station Fort Worth, Joint Reserve Base, Carswell Field was held on Thursday 8 June 1995, at the White Settlement Senior Citizens' Center. The meeting was called to order by Shamaine Chambers King at 7:00 p.m.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Olen Long, AFBCA/OL-H Mr Frank Grey, AFBCA/OL-H Mr Michael Botwin, AFBCA/OL-H Mr Alvin Brown, AFBCA/OL-H

Mr Randy Tarbell, HQ AFCEE

Mr Gary Baumgarten, EPA Mr Geof Meyer, TRNCC

Mr Joel Sanders, SOUTH DIV, NAVFACENGCOM

Mr Tom Davis, Community Co-chair

Mr Lloyd Clary Mr I. Mike Gross Mrs J'Nell Pate

Mr Bob (R.O.) Scott, Fort Worth Audubon Society

Ms Kay Yount, AAUW

Ms Anita Baker, Fort Worth Star Telegram

Dr Beth Laney, Mitre Corp

Ms Shamaine Chambers King, Informatics Corp

#### Welcome and Introductions

Ms Chambers King opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by welcoming everyone to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting. She asked everyone present to introduce themselves and explain why they were at the RAB meeting. Those present introduced themselves and shared their interest in the RAB or their professional function on the RAB.

#### THE RESTORATION ADIVISORY BOARD

#### Definition of the RAB

Ms Chambers King stated that the purpose of the meeting was to reorganize the RAB. She explained that RABs are being used by the government in environmental cleanups across the United States. The Air Force (AF) hopes to involve the community in its restoration process by reorganizing the Naval Air Station (NAS) Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base (JRB), Carswell Field RAB so that it is an effective forum for community education and input. The AF intends to keep the community well informed about the environmental activities at the base by having an active RAB.

Ms Chambers King indicated that the RAB Guidelines handout would explain RAB formation and function. She continued by saying that the government is forming RABs to promote public awareness in the planning stages of environmental restoration, rather than having to explain and defend environmental practices after they have taken place. The Department of Defense is trying to involve the community in the decision making process.

Mr Gary Baumgarten shared his experience with the RAB at Pantex. He explained that the community outreach has been a conflict based process and the RAB attempts to use cooperation between the community and the government to combat distrust of the government by stakeholders. The community can bring their concerns to the RAB and be informed about the clean-up practices at the base.

### History and Purpose of RAB at Carswell

Ms Chambers King explained that Mr Long, Mr Grey, Mr Botwin and Mr Brown worked at the base doing environmental restoration. Mr Grey explained how the RAB at Carswell had functioned in the past. He explained that the RAB meetings were not well attended by the community. Mr Long expressed his hopes for the future of the RAB. He explained that the program has been revamped this spring. He wants the RAB to look at the program and give their input so that everyone is in agreement about what should be done and what the priorities are. In this way, the needs of the community are met. Mr Long expressed the hope that the RAB would reach many people in the community.

Ms Chambers King explained that one of the purposes of the RAB is to diminish distrust of the government through information dissemination. She discussed the importance of the cleanup at the base to the surrounding communities because of Carswell's proximity to Lake Worth and the Trinity River.

#### Community Co-Chair

Mr Davis described his background including that he grew up in White Settlement and River Oaks, that his father was stationed at Carswell AFB, that he is the CEO of a consulting firm, and has a masters degree in architecture. He detailed his civic and political activities including that he was the chairman of the taxpayer's association in Fort Worth and Tarrant county, that he ran for various offices including state representative, and chaired the Carswell "Second Chance" Task Force. He stated that he will take his position seriously and that he has experience of spreading the word and building up excitement and that is what he plans to do for this committee. He shared that he was new to the RAB and was still learning about the mission of the RAB. He plans to use some of the existing community structures to build support for the RAB.

#### Responsibilities and Expectations of RAB Members

Ms Chambers King explained that the time commitment for RAB membership depends upon the individual. The primary expectations are an interest in the issues and a willingness to formulate and share opinions with the RAB. There are documents available to RAB members so that they can become familiar with the environmental issues at the base. The RAB is invited to make comments to the Air Force on the documents in an advisory capacity. RAB members are expected to ask for information and to ask questions when the information is not clear.

RAB members are expected to share information from the RAB with community groups with whom they have contact. Ms Chambers King referenced the RAB Guidelines for expectation of RAB members. She stated that the RAB will decide what the expectations of members will be.

Ms Chambers King explained that there was a selection process for the community co-chair in the guidelines. She stated that a civilian co-chair had been selected without the RAB's input because the interest had been low in the past and that the organizational committee believed that Mr Davis would help to generate interest in the community. She added how fortunate the RAB was that he had agreed to be the civilian co-chair.

Ms Chambers King explained that the RAB Guidelines document was produced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Defense (DOD) and was a guide for all RABs. She went on to say that the Carswell RAB will be unique and that the RAB will define how it will operate.

#### **Selection Process for RAB Members**

Ms Chambers King stated that anyone with an interest and commitment is invited to be a RAB member. If the RAB grows to an unproductive size, the RAB guidelines for selection would be implemented.

#### **Expectations of the Air Force**

Ms Chambers King stated that the RAB had technical support through Mr Long and his staff and other support from her company, Informatics Corp.

#### Air Force Plant 4 (AFP 4) RAB

Ms Chambers King explained that AFP 4 had a RAB for its environmental restoration activities, which advises the AF on issues occurring on the AFP4 property. There is some overlap because some of the contamination has migrated across the property borders. She explained that there would be some coordination between the two RABs. There may be some joint RAB meetings. Mr Long explained that for legal reasons, separate RABs are necessary. He discussed the possibility of the meetings occurring on the same night.

#### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Mr Bob Scott asked if there was a conflict about serving on both RABs. Ms Chambers King responded that there was no conflict. He then asked about the desired diversity from the community for the RAB. Mr Davis responded that the RAB should be made up of people who have a concern. He stated that people who are in the vicinity of the base are going to have an interest. He added that the unknown future of the base would affect who would be interested. He stressed that he wanted to begin with the leadership from the neighboring communities, and use the existing structures and expand from there. Mr Scott said that there were other groups besides the Audobon Society that probably have an interest. Mr Davis responded that he would like to work with groups like Mr Scott's to find out who has an interest. Mr Baumgarten said that at Pantex stakeholder categories were defined. Anyone who had a stake in the environmental practices at the plant were identified such as neighbors, developers, etc. Mr Scott asked how to reach those people. Mr Davis responded that those groups will be identified and targeted mailings will be done.

Mr Long stated that each RAB member should recommend a few people who would be interested in the RAB. Ms Chambers King asked that the community members present share any groups that can be targeted. Ms Yount suggested that a letter could be written to all of the smaller cities in Tarrant County. Mr Davis shared his idea of contacting the city council members from the communities around the base and asking them to appoint a representative to the RAB. Other suggestions were the Chambers of Commerce for the neighboring cities, the North Texas Council of Governments (NTCOG), Forum Fort Worth and the League of Women Voters.

#### MISSION STATEMENT AND OPERATING PROCEDURES

Ms Chambers King asked each of those present to share why they are interested in the RAB and what they hope the RAB will accomplish. Following are the responses:

#### Reasons for serving on the RAB

- an interest in Tarrant county
- an interest in Fort Worth
- an interest in Carswell
- community service
- proximity to the base
- desire to improve the quality of life

#### Expectations for the RAB

- ensure that tax dollars are wisely spent
- review information
- serve as a "check and balance" system
- prioritize projects

Ms Chambers King asked that the members think about what they think the RAB should do. She said that at the next meeting, the group would work on developing a mission statement.

Mr Long shared the history of the Base Conversion Agency (BCA). He stated that President Clinton had been frustrated that no one could find anyone to speak with at Eaker AFB in Arkansas when it was closing. Thus the BCA was instated. Mr Long stated that he had a direct line to Washington and could get any answers that the community needs.

#### **NEXT RAB MEETING**

Ms Chambers King asked the group to decide on a time for the next RAB meeting. It was decided to meet on August 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the White Settlement Senior Citizen's Center. Ms Chambers King asked if there were any requests for information at the next meeting. The following were requested:

- a presentation on the environmental cleanup at Carswell (Installation Restoration Program)
- working towards a mission statement
- a listing of sites
- a presentation on the cleanup procedures (i.e., bioventing, airstripping)

Mr Davis requested that everyone make sure that their address was on the mailing list. Ms Chambers King requested additional names of persons who might be interested.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms Chambers King thanked everyone for their time. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

TOM DAVIS

DoD Co-Chairperson

Community Co-Chairperson

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